



From the Director

By: *Charles G. Marceaux*
Executive Director

LOUISIANA BOARD ON THE NATIONAL FRONT

The Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors is pleased to announce that its Executive Director, Charles "Chuck" Marceaux, has been elected President of NASCLA, the National Association of State Contractor Licensing Agencies. This event occurred at NASCLA's annual Fall Conference held in Asheville, North Carolina in September, 2000. NASCLA was founded in 1962 as a non-profit corporation. Its membership is comprised of states that have enacted laws regulating the business of contracting. It is dedicated to the mutual assistance of the member states in striving for the better regulation of the construction industry to protect the health, safety and welfare of the general public.

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Guam

NASCLA currently is developing a process for national contractor examinations which will enhance the ability of multi-state contractors to be licensed throughout the United States.

CONSTRUCTION Update

State Licensing Board For Contractors

Winter Quarter, 2000
Volume 6, Number 3

QUARTERLY REPORT

CONSTRUCTION Update

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Contracts

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Baton Rouge, LA

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE is published quarterly by the Louisiana State Licensing Board For Contractors.

Q. HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO GET A LICENSE?

For the most part, that's up to the contractor. It takes **on average** four to six weeks for an in-state license to be issued and nine to ten weeks for an out-of-state license to be issued. Files must be **complete** (correctly filled out with all supporting documentation, correct fees, and all exams taken and passed) **ten days prior** to a Board meeting to be placed on the agenda for consideration. Board meetings are normally held on the third Thursday of each month.

Q. WHEN ARE EXAMINATIONS GIVEN?

Testing is scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis by appointment every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at the Board's office in Baton Rouge. In general, applicants are scheduled for exams approximately two to three weeks after the application is received in the office.



Frequently Asked Questions

State Licensing Board Field Offices

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Lake Charles, Louisiana 70601

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Harahan, Louisiana 70123

(504) 736-7125

Shreveport

Shreveport City Hall Annex

(Old State Office Building)

1237 Murphy Street - 2nd Floor

Shreveport, Louisiana 71101

(318) 676-7257

NASCLA Pursues National Contractor Testing

Are you tired of taking exams (and in some cases the same exam) each and every time you apply in another state? Would you like to take one examination for a licensure classification and have that exam recognized across state lines? The National Association of State Contractors Licensing Agencies (NASCLA) thinks this is an idea whose time has come and is taking steps to make the process a reality in the not-too-distant future. NASCLA recognizes that contracting is an increasingly mobile occupation and that the regulated community of contractors is intensely interested in the idea of national contractor competency testing.

The Louisiana Contractor Licensing Board's Applications and Examinations Director, Leonard Servat, is chairman of NASCLA's Examination Standards Committee. NASCLA began its investigation into national testing by conducting a study of the job classifications of its member states. At first, it was thought that the classifications were too diverse to allow single examinations. Upon closer examination, however, the perceived differences were really not a matter of what the contractor was doing, but rather how the individual states regulated what the contractor did. Over twenty job classifications (including almost all major classifications) were identified as having more similarities in the work being performed than differences. Generic scope of work statements were written for these classifications and approved by NASCLA member states. Rather than undertake the development of its own exams for these classifications, NASCLA investigated a method used by other national organizations responsible for licensing or certifying occupations. This method calls for the national organization to develop comprehensive standards by which examinations could be devel-

oped and submitted for approval. NASCLA developed and adopted these standards in conjunction with major test development firms from across the United States. The process of seeking and selecting an unbiased third-party vendor who will review examinations to determine if they meet the criteria set forth in NASCLA's standards is currently underway. It is anticipated that the exam approval process will be installed during 2001.

The final phase of the project will be establishment of the NASCLA registry. Contractors who take a NASCLA approved exam will submit information regarding themselves and the exams they have taken for inclusion in the registry. NASCLA will maintain this information and make it available to member states upon request.

What does this mean for the contractor? The contractor will take one nationally recognized exam for a

given classification. This information will be submitted to the NASCLA exam registry and will be provided to NASCLA members when the contractor makes application in a member state. The member state will acknowledge the examination and the contractor will not have to take that member state's exam for that classification. This should result in faster and much easier licensing for everyone involved.

Charles G. Marceaux, Executive Director and current president of NASCLA, has been a driving force behind national competency testing. According to Marceaux, "The time has come for regulatory bodies to work progressively with industry to reduce both cost and bureaucracy."

Mr. Marceaux also noted that NASCLA also maintains a national disciplinary data bank on contractors who have had their licenses revoked for violating contractor licensing laws.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Mr. Paul Stephenson is the Residential Compliance Investigator for the Alexandria, Shreveport, and Monroe areas.

Disciplinary Actions of State Licensing Board

August 2000

Commercial

Albertson's, Inc.

Arlington, Texas

Allegation: Acting as a contractor without possessing a license to perform work in an amount in excess of \$50,000.

Action: Found guilty. Fined and assessed all costs associated with the proceedings.

Capco Air Conditioning & Heating Company

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Allegation: Allowing license to be used by an unlicensed contractor to perform work in an amount in excess of \$50,000.

Action: Found guilty. Fined, assessed all costs associated with the proceedings and placed on probation for one (1) year.

Thompson Refrigeration

Houston, Texas

Allegation: Acting as a contractor without possessing a license to perform work in an amount in excess of \$50,000.

Action: Found guilty. Fined, assessed all costs associated with the proceedings and placed on probation for one (1) year.

R. C. Mason

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Allegation: Failure to satisfy a judgment.

Action: Allowed thirty (30) days to satisfy judgment or license revoked.

Residential

Grif Crockett

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Allegation: Constructing a residence in an amount in excess of \$50,000 without possessing a State residential license.

Action: Guilty plea. Fined and assessed all costs associated the proceedings.

Durwood Tadlock

Vicksburg, Mississippi

Allegation: Constructing a residence in an amount in excess of \$50,000 without possessing a State residential license.

Action: Guilty plea. Fined and assessed all costs associated with the proceedings.

S & S Development, L. L. C.

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Allegation: Constructing multiple residences in an amount in excess of \$50,000 without possessing a State residential license.

Action: Found guilty. Fined, assessed all costs associated with the proceedings and a cease and desist order issued.

Henry Watts and Company, Inc.

Natchez, Mississippi

Allegation: Constructing a residence in an amount in excess of \$50,000 without possessing a State residential license.

Action: Found guilty. Assessed all costs associated with the proceedings.

Chimento Homebuilders

Chalmette, Louisiana

Allegation: Failure to maintain current general liability insurance coverage.

Action: License suspended, fined and cease and desist order issued.

Paradise Homes of St. Tammany, Inc.

Bush, Louisiana

Allegation: Failure to maintain current worker's compensation insurance coverage.

Action: License suspended, fined and cease and desist order issued.

Restoration Contractors, Inc.

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Allegation: Failure to maintain current worker's compensation insurance coverage.

Action: License suspended, fined and cease and desist order issued.

Steven Scott Contractors

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Allegation: Failure to maintain current worker's compensation insurance coverage.

Action: License suspended, fined and cease and desist order issued.

Trinity Construction of St. Tammany, Inc.

Slidell, Louisiana

Allegation: Failure to maintain current worker's compensation insurance coverage.

Action: License suspended, fined and cease and desist order issued.

Continued on page 5

Disciplinary Actions of State Licensing Board

September 2000

Commercial

Stoddard Contracting, Inc.

Lake Charles, Louisiana

Allegation: Failure to pay fine assessed by the Board.

Action: Allowed ten (10) days to pay the outstanding fine or license automatically revoked and cease and desist order issued. License revoked.

Edwards Electrical

Dry Prong, Louisiana

Allegation: Acting as a contractor without possessing a license to perform work on two separate projects in an amount in excess of \$50,000.

Action: Found guilty on both projects. Fined, assessed all costs associated with the proceedings and placed on probation for one (1) year.

J.L.J. Construction Co., Inc.

New Orleans, Louisiana

Allegation: Failure to satisfy a judgment.

Action: Allowed sixty (60) days to satisfy judgment or license automatically revoked.

Tassin Steel Erection, Inc.

Covington, Louisiana

Allegation: Failure to satisfy a judgment.

Action: Allowed thirty (30) days to satisfy judgment or license automatically revoked. License revoked.

Borinquen Insulation Company, Inc.

Port Arthur, Texas

Allegation: Failure to replace a qualifying party.

Action: License revoked.

Corporate Express of the South, Inc.

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Allegation: Failure to replace a qualifying party.

Action: Allowed thirty (30) days to replace qualifying party or license automatically revoked.

Specialized Services of Louisiana, Inc.

New Iberia, Louisiana

Allegation: Failure to replace a qualifying party.

Action: Allowed thirty (30) days to replace qualifying party or license automatically revoked. License revoked.

October 2000

Commercial

W. H. Mills Company

Bunkie, Louisiana

Allegation: Failure to satisfy a judgment.

Action: Allowed until January 31, 2001 to satisfy judgment or license automatically revoked.

Quave's Fabrication & Construction Co., Inc.

Ocean Springs, Mississippi

Allegation: Failure to register a qualifying party.

Action: License placed in inactive status per company's request.

Argon Electric, Inc.

Plant City, Florida

Allegation: Failure to register a qualifying party.

Action: License revoked.

Weighing Technologies, Inc.

Seabrook, Texas

Allegation: Failure to register a qualifying party.

Action: Allowed sixty (60) days to replace qualifying party or license automatically revoked.

Technip USA Corporation

Houston, Texas

Allegation: Failure to register a qualifying party.

Action: Classification of Building Construction removed from license.

JE Merit Constructors, Inc.

Houston, Texas

Allegation: Failure to register a qualifying party.

Action: Allowed thirty (30) days to replace qualifying party or classification of Specialty: Hazardous Waste Treatment or Removal automatically removed from license.

H M C, Inc.

Prairieville, Louisiana

Allegation: Failure to register a qualifying party.

Action: License revoked.

NASCLA National Association of State Contractor's Licensing Agencies

IF YOU NEED INFORMATION ON CONTRACTOR LICENSING IN OTHER STATES, YOU NEED A COPY OF THE CONTRACTOR'S STATE LICENSING INFORMATION DIRECTORY.

This publication identifies over 150 state agencies that regulate the construction industry. The Directory summarizes the prequalification, licensing, examination and bonding requirements. Information on reciprocity, license classifications, and incorporating is also included. 180 pages. 2000 edition.

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Update

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Board For
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